REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

By this amendment, claims 20 and 32 are amended and claims 1-19 and 21-23 are cancelled. No new matter has been introduced. Claims 20 and 24-32 are pending. The Examiner has allowed claims 24-31. Claims 13 and 23 were indicated by the Examiner to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In light of same, and in light of the following remarks, allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

Applicant has adopted the Examiner's suggestions herein to expedite the allowance of the application. Namely, Claim 13 has been rewritten in independent form as shown in amended Claim 32. Claim 23 has likewise been rewritten in independent form as shown in amended Claim 20. Applicant notes that the cancellation or amendment of any claims herein by Applicant should not be considered an acquiescence or agreement with the grounds for rejecting the claims, and Applicant expressly reserves the right to traverse the rejections in a continuation application directed to the same subject matter. Applicant believes the amendments herein, which place the application in condition for allowance, render the Examiner's rejections moot, and will therefore, not address such rejections individually herein.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. However, should the Examiner have any further point of objection, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned by telephone so that a mutual agreement with respect to claim limitations can be reached without further delay.

Date: February 7, 2005

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Respectfully submitted,

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